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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DANNY E. ADAMS

DIRECT LINE (202) 955-9874

William F. Caton, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Room 222 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:

CC Docket No. 96-98

Local Interconnection

Dear Mr. Caton:

NEW YORK, N.Y.

MIAMI, FL. CHICAGO, IL.

STAMFORD, CT.

PARSIPPANY, N.J.

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM HONG KONG

AFFILIATED OFFICES

NEW DELHI, INDIA

TOKYO, JAPAN

On behalf of Cable & Wireless, Inc., please take notice that on June 28, 1996, Alan Stiffler and Rachel Rothstein of Cable & Wireless, Inc. and I met with Lauren Belvin and Derek Yo of the FCC. The discussion concerned CWI's comments in the above-referenced docket, as summarized in the attached materials.

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, an original and one copy of this notice and attachments are provided for inclusion in the public record.

Sincerely,

Danny E. Adams

Enclosure

THE IMPORTANCE OF CC Docket No. 96-98 LOCAL RESALE

CABLE & WIRELESS, INC.

Rachel J. Rothstein

Senior Regulatory Counsel 8219 Leesburg Pike

Vienna, VA 22182

703-734-4439

703-442-8891(fax)



June 24, 1996

National Minimum Rules Are Necessary and Appropriate

- The FCC has the authority and the duty to establish national minimum standards.
- National standards for local resale should include:
- All services are available for resale.
- Services may not be withdrawn/grandfathered to avoid resale.
- implementation. New services should be available for resale simultaneously with
- "Costs avoided" should include specified USOA accounts.
- Administrative costs cannot be added to wholesale prices.
- States should adopt rules promptly.



Why is Resale Important

- Uncertainty of Unbundled Elements and Interconnection.
- Resale is critical to prevent discrimination and anticompetitive pricing.
- Resale and Shared Use Decision (1976)
- CMRS Resale Decision (June 12, 1996)
- Policy is mostly theoretical at this time.
- Once policy is implemented, ILECs and new facilities. competitors will need to experiment and test
- Ability/timing of states to set pricing.



Why is Resale Important

- Smaller CLECs may not be able to take advantage of unbundled elements for some
- Some carriers may remain limited to geographic areas. specific geographic regions -- making resale only option in low customer growth



Which Services Should Be Available for Resale

- Section 251 requires that all services provided at retail must be offered for resale at wholesale rates.
- At a minimum, the FCC should require the states to three months from release of the FCC's decision. make the following services available for resale within
- Measured & flat rate residential and business service
- Measured and flat rate trunk services
- Centrex (and all feature packages)
- All other ancillary services
- All other features



Promotions/ Discounts Must Be Available for Resale

- Prohibit ability of ILECs to use promotions to thwart entry by competitors.
- Helps to ensure against anti-competitive conduct in joint marketing local and long distance service.
- Helps prevent discriminatory and anticompetitive pricing.
- All "packages" of ILEC products must be avoided cost. included for resale at bundled-package rate, minus



Grandfathering/ Withdrawal of Service

- FCC must prohibit ILECs from withdrawing service solely to avoid resale - States should undertake appropriate business analysis review
- Services grandfathered to ILEC customers must be grandfathered to CLEC resale customers



Back-Office Support

- Almost as important as services, ILECs must give access to systems to support resale, with consistent pricing.
- Access to customer information
- Ordering/provisioning
- On-line Billing/Customer Account Data
- On-line monitoring & troubleshooting



The States' Role

- States must enact wholesale prices for all ILEC services at avoided costs.
- States must vigorously pursue policies barriers to resale entry. which prohibit the ILECs from enacting
- States must entertain mediation requests from ILECs on resale issues.

